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MONTHLY TRUCK TONNAGE REPORT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FROM STATISTICAL ANALYSIS DEPARTMENT
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TONNAGE INDEX INCREASES IN MAY

General freight carrier tonnage increased 3.8 points in May 1990 from April 1990 according to the ATA Truck Tonnage Index. At a level of 177.8(p) with 1967 = 100, the May tonnage is 2.2% above April's 174.0(r). The current month's volume is 5.2 points (3 percent) above the tonnage level in May 1989.

The actual tons reported by motor carriers in the ATA survey increased from 3.2 million tons in April to 3.4 million tons in May 1990. Actual tons increased 5.6%. Adjustments for variations due to seasonality and the number of working (trading) days increased the May index level to 177.8(p).

From April 1990, to May 1990, Industrial Production index increased 0.6% compared to the adjusted general freight tonnage index increase of 2.2%.

These findings were announced today by the American Trucking Associations. (ATA) Statistical Analysis Department. The monthly truck tonnage index is based on a survey of the companywide operations of Class I and II motor carriers of general freight. Index coverage represents in excess of one-half of the tonnage moved by this type of for-hire motor carriers of property subject to Interstate Commerce Commission regulation.

Month-to-month data are compiled using a chain link which, in turn, has been adjusted to remove the normal seasonal influence and variations due to differing numbers of business (trading) days each month.

The current and historic index numbers are shown on the reverse side, along with several other major business indicator series. A "three-month moving average" adjusted truck tonnage index has also been compiled which aids in smoothing out short term non-significant movements in the series.

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p - preliminary r - revised f - final

INDEXES AND COMPARISONS THROUGH MAY, 1990
1967 = 100

	MAY 1990	APRIL 1990	MARCH 1990	MAY 1989	Monthly % Change 4/90 / 3/90	Monthly % Change 5/90 / 4/90	Yearly % Change
Tonnage Index (adjusted)[1]	177.8p	174.0r	173.2f	172.6f	+ 0.5	+ 2.2	+ 3.0
Tonnage Index (unadjusted)	180.3p	170.7r	182.6f	174.9f	- 6.5	+ 5.6	+ 3.1
Industrial Production Index[2,5] (total)	109.7	109.0	109.0	108.3	NC	+ 0.6	+ 1.3
Manufacturers (total)	110.6	109.7	109.9	109.2	- 0.2	+ 0.8	+ 1.3
Non-durable	107.9	107.8	107.3	106.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.1	+ 1.4
Durable	112.6	111.2	111.9	111.4	- 0.6	+ 1.3	+ 1.1
Producer Price Index[3] (unadjusted)	114.5	114.0	114.2	113.2	- 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 1.1
Consumer Price Index[4] (unadjusted)	129.2	128.9	128.7	123.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	+ 4.4
Tonnage Reported by 77 Carriers in MAY, 1990 (000 tons)	3,400	3,220	n.a.	3,321	n.a.	+ 5.6	+ 2.4

p - preliminary r - revised f - final n.a. - not applicable

1 - Adjusted seasonally & for trading days
2 - Seasonally adjusted
3 - Finished goods (formerly Wholesale Price Index) 1982 = 100
4 - Goods and services 1982 high 1984 = 100
5 - 1987=100

* The MAY 1989 tonnage figure is taken from current reports received from carriers (MAY 1990) and bears no relationship to the tonnage indices shown above.

ADJUSTED MONTHLY TRUCK INDEX — HISTORICAL — 1967 = 100

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
January	140.6	138.7	154.7	175.6	177.1	172.0
February	138.5	142.0	160.2	173.6	171.0	169.2
March	139.3	140.0	160.6	175.9	167.7	173.2
April	138.1	144.7	157.8	177.1	173.2	174.0p
May	138.6	144.3	159.6	178.9	172.6	177.8p
June	133.8	142.1	160.7	181.6	169.5	
July	132.7	153.0	162.9	174.5	160.1	
August	135.2	153.4	163.9	178.3	168.5	
September	134.5	155.1	168.0	178.7	165.4	
October	135.2	154.8	169.9	177.4	166.9	
November	138.1	153.0	172.6	177.3	165.9	
December	135.0	154.4	173.6	177.9	165.5	

* all data are final unless otherwise noted.

Three Month Moving Average of Adjusted Truck Tonnage Index for Recent Months

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1988	174.3	175.0	175.5	177.3	179.2	178.3	178.1	177.2	178.1	177.8	177.5	177.4
1989	175.3	171.9	170.6	171.2	171.8	167.4	166.0	164.7	166.9	166.1	166.1	167.8
1990	168.9	171.5	172.1r	175.0p								

The moving average aids in smoothing out less significant monthly variations.